

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 22, 2013

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 41

Introduced by Assembly Member Members Chávez and Harkey
(Principal coauthor: Senator Wyland)

March 21, 2013

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 41—Relative to the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. *Memorial* Bridge.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 41, as amended, Chávez. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. *Memorial* Bridge.

This measure would designate the Mission Avenue bridge over Interstate 5 in the City of Oceanside as the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. *Memorial* Bridge to honor the life and achievements of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The measure would request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost for appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (January 15, 1929 -
2 April 4, 1968) was an American clergyman, doctor of theology,
3 activist, and leader in the African American Civil Rights
4 Movement, who is best known for his role in the advancement of
5 civil rights using nonviolent civil disobedience; and

6 WHEREAS, Dr. King, who has become a national icon, became
7 a Baptist minister and a civil rights activist early in his career; and

1 WHEREAS, Dr. King led the 1955 Montgomery Bus Boycott
2 and helped found the Southern Christian Leadership Conference
3 (SCLC) in 1957, serving as its first president. With the SCLC, Dr.
4 King led an unsuccessful struggle against segregation in Albany,
5 Georgia in 1962, and organized nonviolent protests in Birmingham,
6 Alabama that attracted national attention following television news
7 coverage of the brutal police response; and

8 WHEREAS, Dr. King also helped to organize the 1963 March
9 on Washington, D.C., where he delivered his “I Have a Dream”
10 speech. There, he established his reputation as one of the greatest
11 orators in American history and said to the crowd: “With this faith
12 we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of
13 hope. With this faith we will be able to transform the jangling
14 discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood”;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, On October 14, 1964, Dr. King received the Nobel
17 Peace Prize for combating racial inequality through nonviolence.
18 In 1965, he and the SCLC helped to organize the Selma to
19 Montgomery marches, and the following year, he took the
20 movement north to Chicago. In the final years of his life, Dr. King
21 expanded his focus to include poverty and the Vietnam War; and

22 WHEREAS, Dr. King was assassinated on April 4, 1968, in
23 Memphis, Tennessee and was posthumously awarded the
24 Presidential Medal of Freedom and the Congressional Gold Medal.
25 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day was established as a United States
26 federal holiday in 1986 and a memorial statue on the National Mall
27 in Washington, D.C. was opened to the public in 2011; now,
28 therefore, be it

29 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
30 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature designates the Mission
31 Avenue bridge (Bridge No. 57-0266) over Interstate 5 in the City
32 of Oceanside as the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. *Memorial* Bridge
33 to honor the life and achievements of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.;
34 and be it further

35 *Resolved*, That when our children cross this bridge they can be
36 reminded of an American hero who preached love, understanding,
37 and peace for all; and be it further

38 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is requested
39 to determine the cost of erecting appropriate signs consistent with
40 the signing requirements for the state highway system, showing

1 this special designation and, upon receiving donations from
2 nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs; and be it
3 further
4 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
5 of this resolution to the Department of Transportation and to the
6 author for appropriate distribution.

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